

ROMANCE OF MARBLE TRADE.

How Quarries That Beautified Old Rome Were Rediscovered.

The group of visitors to the congressional library files into the gallery that overlooks the magnificent reading room. The guide was about to tell his usual story when he stopped, because one of two strangers was explaining things to his friend in a way that showed him to be one of the initiated, and he thought that by listening he might pick up a point or two.

"Yes, Joe," said the younger man. "I've made money in the marble business, but I'm not satisfied, and never will be until American marbles are sought for systematically. But to find a marble quarry is not such an easy thing. Just think of it. Of all the marbles that were used by Rome in her day of imperial glory not one quarry had been rediscovered thirty years ago, and then this one (slapping the outer pier of one of the octagons as he spoke) was found very much by accident, although the man was hunting for it right enough, and had got to the place where it was. But he could not see it, and wouldn't have seen it had it not been for an indisposition of Providence."

"Do you believe in Providence, then?"

"Yes. I have to, after what happened to that Frenchman."

"What Frenchman?"

"Why, the man that discovered this marble. We call it Numidian. In fact, it is found between Algeria and the great Sahara desert, but on this side of the Atlas mountains. It is quite a story, the one romance of the marble trade. There was a young French architect who, like many deeply impressed by the fact that all the quarries known to the Romans had been lost to us. He determined to find one, and he selected this, partly because it was known to come from somewhere in Africa, and partly because he had friends in Algeria. He read and read until he had made it certain that this marble so much prized by the Romans came from the northern foothills of the Atlas range. That is, he thought so. He called a mining engineer, his business friends, laid the matter before them, and asked them to put up the money for preliminary expenses; a superior kind of grub stake; while he hunted for the quarry."

"Now, this is the sort of thing the French dearly love, and they advanced the francs without a murmur. Then the hunt began. But the poor man found nothing. He sent to Paris for more money and it came. By dint of searching he had proved to himself that the quarry must have been in the vicinity of a certain village. When he got there he found Roman inscriptions and Roman ruins, but no quarry. It was a ghastly place. The homes were built among gigantic boulders, snowy white, and in the near distance were the foothills."

"It was there, if anywhere, but where was it? He sank his pride, and lived as humbly as the poorest Arab to make his money last the longer, for he knew that no more would come from Paris. "Providence stood by him. He discovered a small bed of iron ore, available for making steel. This he turned over to the Algerian government and sent half of what he received to his friends in Paris, writing that he was sure he was in the right place, and that he proposed to live and die there until he discovered the secret of the Numidian marble. His friends wrote 'You have saved your honor. Come back to us.' But he wouldn't. He was sure that, wherever the quarry might be, the Romans had received their blocks in that village. Locally he was right. He stayed on, and the French officials in Algeria, honoring his persistency, gave him a small position which carried with it some prestige among the Arabs."

"At length the unexpected happened. It commenced raining hard, although the place was well within the rainless region. For three days it rained. The Frenchman stopped at home and dreamed pipe dreams."

"When he went out he saw something that made his head swim. The rain had washed the huge boulders, and they were no longer white. They were obviously of many colors, and he knew that they were the marbles he had so vainly sought. There was no quarry, only boulders. He at once organized a little private company, that has been doing a splendid business ever since. For a new old marble leaped into the favor of architects at once, and no wonder, for all of it is good, and some of it is gorgeous. Just look at this crimson. Can anything be finer? And see what a splendid color effect is produced by these African marbles and the French siennas, that yellow with the black and white veining. There's where our money. That sienna marble is not marble at all, but alabaster, and it cuts like cheese. What's more, Mexican onyx is alabaster, too. Oh, yes, there's plenty of the real thing in Colorado and Arizona, but it's harder than quartz, and to handle it would drive a man into bankruptcy."

Washington Day by Day.

(New York World.)

"I have heard of men who did sucker things," said Representative Ruppert today, "but I think a young man who is a friend of mine struck the extreme limit at the New Willard last night."

"What did he do?" asked Representative Ryan.

"Why," said Ruppert, "he lent \$10 to a wing agent."

"There are times when I am tempted to doubt the existence of the boasted New England hospitality," said Senator Hoar.

"When I was at home in Massachusetts the last time I dined with a farmer friend of mine whom I have known for years, they had a turkey. It was excellent and I ate heartily."

"John," I said, "this turkey will make fine hash tomorrow."

"Yes, George, it will," he replied, "provided you leave off now."

The talk in the Republican cloak room of the house turned to college yells, perhaps because where have been a number of college chaps in one of the galleries during the session.

"I have heard a lot of college yells in my time," said Representative Driscoll of Syracuse, "but I think the medical students of the Syracuse university, class of 1904, have the wonder of the world. It is:

"Well, man, sick man, dead man, stiff. Dig 'em up, cut 'em up, what's the diff? Humerus, tumerous, blood and gore, Syracuse medicos, 1904."

"Are you any relation to the ball-player named Mercer who killed himself the other day?" asked Representative Shattuck of Ohio of Representative Mercer of Nebraska.

"What was his first name?" asked Mr. Mercer.

"Win," answered Mr. Shattuck. "No relation," said Mr. Mercer. "There ha'n't been a 'win' in our family since before election."

A Collector.

(Exchange.)

She—Have you heard the news? Mc-Solomon is to marry again, the fourth time, I believe.

He—Yes, I've heard about it. Beats all how the race for collecting will take hold of a man. Sometimes it is old books or playbills and sometimes it's postage stamps. In McSolomon's case it appears to be wives.

Charitable Sex.

(Chicago News.)

He—Miss Thirtydoll must be a jolly sort of person. She smiles continually.

She—Oh, she does that to people who think their wrinkles belong to the smiles.

Success as a Doctor.

(Harvard Lampoon.)

Youthful M. D. I suppose that one must wait long for success in our profession.

Aged Pitho—Yes, it takes no end of patients.

Every Department Offers Paramount Bargains In Great

ALTERATION AND EXPANSION SALE

JUST about eighteen months ago we doubled our store capacity and today we find ourselves again hampered for room, and in order to meet the demands of our increased trade, we are adding an additional floor capacity of over 4,000 square feet, together with other needed improvements throughout, in order to facilitate and despatch business in accordance with advanced, up-to-date, modern methods.



FOR weeks mechanics have been busy getting our new salesroom under way and at this writing the premises are in the hands of the cabinet makers who are putting on the finishing touches. Moving departments is always a difficult problem in a store such as this and in order to do so with the greatest rapidity, stocks must be reduced to a minimum in order to make the grand change quickly when the signal is given.

As the Time Draws Near for the Shake-Up of All Departments Stocks Must Be SACRIFICED to Facilitate Intended Changes

Big Specials in Black and Colored Dress Goods

Before Moving the Department

30¢

28-inch wool Henriettas in all wanted shades, including black and cream. Regular 80c grade. Per yard—

46-inch All Wool Vigoreux Suitings, green, brown, blue and Oxford mixtures, all good, desirable spring shades. Per yard—

52-inch All Wool Crash Suitings, all desirable mixed suiting effects, \$1.00 per yard cloth. Now—

38-inch black wool pebble Chevilot Granite Cloths, Henriettas and fancy Jacquards. Worth 50c per yard. Now—

28-inch Wool Zibellines, black only, an extra good black goods. Value at 75c per yard. Special only—

46-inch Black Twine Cloth, one of the popular new cloths for spring skirts and suits. Special, per yard—

Special Prices on Black Taffetas Before Shifting the Stock.

22-inch Black Taffeta Silk, Swiss finish, 55c quality. Per yard—

24-inch Black Taffeta Silks, extra good width and only—

24-inch Guaranteed Black Taffeta Silk, "J. & A. Cohn wear guaranteed, woven on selvage." Special price this week, per yard—

26-inch Guaranteed Imported Black Taffeta, extra big value. Per yard—

Special Pricing on Ladies', Misses' Children's and Men's Hosiery.

Children's and misses' wool hose, 1st ribbed, spliced heel and toe; women's wool hose, ribbed top, high spliced heel and double sole; men's half hose, imported fleece lined, with double soles and high spliced heel. All 25c value—

Women's heavy-weight Cashmere Hose, double soles and high spliced heel, ribbed top. Children's heavy ribbed wool stockings, high spliced heel, double knees and toes, sizes from 6 to 9. Men's fine worsted half hose, come in natural and black, with high spliced heel and double sole—

Women's outside hose of fine cashmere, high spliced heel and double sole—

Petticoats, Wrappers, Etc., Reduced Before Moving These Stocks.

One lot of Satene, Porealine and Moire Petticoats in all dark and medium fall and winter shades, some lighter colored spring materials. Every one a bargain, beautifully made, in great variety, accordion, Van Dyke pleated and ruffled styles. Some were our regular \$1.75 petticoats, not one less than \$1. Choice during alteration sale—

Olds and ends Black Satene Petticoats, corded and pleated ruffles, five styles, choice of—

Calico Wrappers, red and navy, waist lined. Regular 90c value. Choice—

One lot Flannellette Wrappers, odds and ends, some up to \$2.00—

One lot Porealine Wrappers, red, navy and black grounds, braid and ruffle trimmed, four styles, made full and perfect fitting. Worth up to \$1.75. Choice—

Table Linen and Napkin Remnant Sale.

The Annual January Sale of Table Linens and Napkins has left us with hundreds of short lengths and odd half dozens which must be cleared out in order to make room for new importations now on the way. To effect a quick clearance, prices will be almost cut in half.

REMNANTS OF TURKEY RED DAMASK, BLEACHED AND UNBLEACHED, TABLE LINENS IN LENGTHS FROM 1 1/2 TO 5 YARDS, AT 35c AND UP TO \$5.00 PER REMNANT. ODD HALF DOZENS NAPKINS, 40c TO \$2.50 PER HALF DOZEN.

Big Specials for this Sale in Embroideries and Lace

Insertions.

One lot of cotton torchon insertions in widths from 1 1/2 to 2 inches, to be closed out, instead of 5c per yard—

A broken line of Cambric Embroideries in widths from one to two inches. Per yard—

Dainty Swiss, Nainsook and Cambric Edges, from one to two and one-half inches wide, in a large variety of patterns. Per yard—

Colored Embroidery on white in a variety of colors, with insertions to match. Per yard—

Cambric Edgings from two to eight inches in width, an extra special value, worth 15c to 25c. Per yard—

Hundreds of remnants in lengths 1 1/2 to 4 1/2 yards, in all widths and patterns at—

HALF ORIGINAL PRICES.

Stamped Linens Underpriced.

A broken line of Fine Stamped Linens, consisting of 12x12, 12x18 and 24x24-inch stamped linen center pieces. Stamped in pretty floral and scroll designs, and worth up to 65c each. To be closed out at—

25c, 15c and 10c.

Muslin Remnants.

Bleached and Unbleached, in lengths from two to six yards. Worth 5c per yard. Sale—

Buy Notions Now.

ALUMINUM THIMBLES, JAPANESE HOOKS AND EYES, ADAMANTINE PINS, WIRE HAIR PINS, JET HEADED HAT PINS.

Eureka Hooks and Eyes, per card—

Largest Box Wire Hair Pins, worth 5c, only—

White or Colored wide width Tape, per roll—

Oscar de Long Hook and Eye, per card—

Wire Hair Pins, per card—

Jet Headed Hat Pins, per card—

The Alteration Sale Hits Blankets and Comforts.

Good quality light tan colored sheet blankets, full 10-4 size, Regular 55c grade. Per pair—

Fine quality Cotton Blankets, in fancy brown mixtures, full 11-4 size. These blankets are made of select stock, superior in finish, borders unexcelled for their clear and delicate colorings. Regular value \$1.75. Per pair—

Twenty-five pairs of fine wool blankets that are scuffed from handling, and are somewhat soiled. They have sold all season at \$5.00. Per pair—

Fine quality Silkoline Covered Comforts, size 72x78 inches, filled with superior cotton specially prepared to produce the effect of fine down, which, combined with its extreme lightness, makes it the most desirable comfort ever made. Regular price \$2.50. Each—

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We Must Reduce Our Stock of Ladies' Walking Skirts and Misses' Dress Skirts.

Walking Skirts made of Chevilot, Kersey and Knickerbocker Suitings. Colors Oxford, black, gray, navy and black with white flake, and fancy dark checks. Latest flaring and flounce styles, tailor stitched and some strap trimmed. All lengths, worth up to \$4.50.

Misses' Dress Skirts, all lengths, red, royal, tan, castor and brown, made of chevilot, Venetian, covert and broadcloth. Some satin and taffeta strap trimmed. Worth up to \$4.50.

Choice of any of these skirts during alteration sale—

Big line of Misses' Dress Skirts in red, navy, royal, great variety of styles, all sizes. Worth up to \$4.50. Choice—

Many old ladies' Walking Skirts. Worth up to \$5.50 and styles. Choice—

Odds and ends of Ladies' Walking Skirts. Worth up to \$3.00. Greatest variety material—

Big Reductions in Dressing Sacques.

Infants' Elderdown and Striped Terry Sacques. Regular price 90c. To close out, choice—

Big variety in Red Ripple Elderdown Dressing Sacques, up to \$3.00. Choice—

Assorted pink, blue, gray, rose and fancy striped Ripple Elderdown Dressing Sacques. Worth up to \$4.50. Some slightly soiled. All sizes. Choice—

Flannellette and Swansdown Flannel Dressing Sacques, velvet, broad and ribbon trimmed, all colors. Choice—

A Shake-up in Corset Prices.

A fine coutil corset, full gored and a straight front, a few to be closed out at a sacrifice; all worth more than \$1.50. To be sold for—

A ladies' Fine Fitting Corset made with the new habit hip, also a fine basiste corset, medium length, in blue, pink and white, for—

A children's Corded Waist in all sizes, in colors white and drab, made a special of, for this sale—

A broken lot of misses' and children's Waists of the Ferris make, a few styles we are closing out. Worth up to \$1.00, for—

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Walking Skirts made of Chevilot, Kersey and Knickerbocker Suitings. Colors Oxford, black, gray, navy and black with white flake, and fancy dark checks. Latest flaring and flounce styles, tailor stitched and some strap trimmed. All lengths, worth up to \$4.50.

Misses' Dress Skirts, all lengths, red, royal, tan, castor and brown, made of chevilot, Venetian, covert and broadcloth. Some satin and taffeta strap trimmed. Worth up to \$4.50.

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Big Jacket Values Before Department is Moved.

Odds and ends in children's heavy Cloth Jackets and long coats and a few in lighter weight materials in royal, navy, red, castor and tan. Extra choice values. Worth up to \$2.50. Choice—

A few odds and ends in Ladies' Jackets, castor, tan, royal and a few black. All sizes, some extra choice worth up to \$12.50, none less than \$1.00. Choice, to close out, only—

Lace Curtains Cut to Facilitate Moving the Dept.

Nottingham Lace Curtains, 2 1/2 yards long, value 60c. Fair—

Good quality Nottingham Lace Curtains, 45 inches wide and three yards long. Value \$1.00. For pair—

High-grade Nottingham Lace Curtains, 50 inches wide and 3 1/2 yards long. Value \$2.25. For pair—

Closing Out All Waistings to Make Stocks Lighter Before the Change Takes Place.

Striped half wool waistings, in all the desirable colorings and variety of pretty patterns, suitable for early spring waistings. Per yard—

New Spring Albatross Waistings, pretty corded stripes and fancy Persian stripe effects. Per yard—

High class Mercerized Oxford Waistings in pretty plaid grounds, Per yard—

New Cotton Dress Goods Booked For a Quick Clearance.

Beautiful printed Cotton Challies in dainty colorings. Worth 10c. Special, per yard—

Plaid Cotton Dress Goods, big variety of colorings. Per yard—

32-inch fancy Seersuckers and Madras Cloth, newest colorings and striped effects for waistings and children's dresses. Per yard—

Toile du Nord, fine Zephyr Gingham in all the newest stripes and checks. Per yard—

All Winter Underwear Must Be Closed Out.

Women's heavy ribbed wool vest, silk tape and silk crochet finish neck, pearl buttons, gusset sleeves; pants with French cut band to match; women's heavy fleece lined union suits, "Molva cut," come in white and natural, sold regularly for 50c—

Misses' Ecu Ribbed, Fleece Lined Union Suits, open front, half open back; misses' derby ribbed, fleece lined vests and pants, always sold for 40c; boys' ribbed fleeced drawers, heavyweight, natural color only, all sizes; boys' heavyweight fleece lined drawers, flat weave, sold regularly for—

Women's Equestrienne Tights, heavy Jersey Ribbed Wool, silk tape finish, \$1.75 value. for—

Muslin and Flannellette Underwear.

Ladies' flannellette gowns, worth up to \$1.75, also a fine cambric top skirt with an umbrella flounce, embroidery ruffle; a corset cover with a full lace insertion front, adjusted with draw string and baby ribbon, for—

Ladies' Fine Cambric Drawers with a fine tucked lawn ruffle edged with lace—

Ladies' Fine Chemise with a torchon lace yoke, crepe navy length and of fine material—

Ladies' Corset Cover made with a full front and back, adjusted with draw string and trimmed with fine lace, for—